GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5154
ANSWERED ON:27.08.2001
HANDING OVER OF MINES TO PRIVATE SECTOR
UTTAMRAO DEORAO PATIL

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are several mines in the private sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether many public sector mines are running in loss;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government propose to hand over some more mines to private sector; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI JAISINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL)

(a) to (d): As per information maintained by the Indian Bureau of Mines,a subordinate office of the Ministry of Mines, out ofthe 3012 mines which were reported to have worked during 2000-2001, 853 were in the public sector, and the rest in the private sector. However, mine-wise information on financial performance is not centrally maintained, hence separate information on the specific public sector mines running in loss is not available .

(e) and (f) Disinvestment of Central Public Sector Undertakings including those engaged, inter alia,in mining sector is being done as per the policy of privatizing non-strategic Public Sector Undertakings through gradual disinvestment or strategic sale. Disinvestment is a continuous process and the Government has completed the disinvestment of Bharat Aluminium Company Limited (BALCO) through strategic sale and has initiated the process of disinvestment in respect of Hindustan Copper Limited and Hindustan Zinc Limited.